

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A tray comprising:

a storage surface formed with a plurality of openings[;]

[a plurality of personal item storage elements located on said storage surface]
said openings comprising a first substantially rectangular shaped opening and a second substantially circular shaped opening, said rectangular opening having three substantially planar sides extending down from said storage surface and surrounding a rectangular lower surface formed below said storage surface, wherein one side of said lower surface is joined with a side of said rectangular opening in said storage surface such that said lower surface is positioned at a non-parallel angle with respect to said storage surface;

a base or support for the storage surface [attached] formed below said storage surface and storage structures; and

a lateral movement restriction [component(s)] portion formed [incorporated] onto [the] a lower surface of said base or support.

2. (Currently Amended) A tray as set forth in claim 1, further comprising

a plurality of personal item placement identification [markings or features] portions, wherein one of said identification portions is formed onto said lower surface.

3. (Currently Amended) A tray as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

a plurality of personal item presence sensing circuits and components; and

a signal mechanism [or circuits and components] portion [used] adapted to [indicate] signal one or more personal items are not present on the tray.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A storage tray comprising:

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a substantially rectangular and planar [top] upper surface;

a base uniformly extending downwards from the edges and top of said upper surface in order to provide a depth below said planar [top] upper surface;

a plurality of compartments recessed from said [upper] planar upper surface [with shapes and dimensions suited] adapted to store a plurality of personal items of different shapes and sizes, one of said plurality of compartments comprising a rectangular shaped upper opening having three vertical sides extending from said upper surface and surrounding a rectangular lower surface, said rectangular shaped lower surface sloping downwards from a side of said opening; and

a tray base having a substantially non-skid or high friction co-efficient application attached or applied to a bottom surface of the tray base.

7. (Currently Amended) A storage tray as set forth in claim 6 [which further includes markings or pictures identifying the use of each storage compartments] further comprising one or more portions shaped in the form of identification symbols formed on said lower surface inside at least one said compartments.

8. (Currently Amended) A storage tray as set forth in claim 7 [which also] further comprising [comprises] personal item storage containers, including but not limited to denture cups, designed to fit securely within the compartment(s) recessed into the tray's planar surface.

9. (Currently Amended) A storage tray comprising:

1

a substantially rectangular and planar surface;

a base [uniformly extending downwards from the edges and top of said upper] beneath and joined to said planar surface [in order to provide depth below the planar surface];

a [series] plurality of compartments recessed from said [upper] planar surface [with shapes and dimensions suited] adapted to [store] receive a different one of a plurality of personal items comprising eyeglasses, dentures and hearing aids, one of said compartments having a first compartment formed with a rectangular opening at the level of said planar surface adapted to store said eyeglasses, said first compartment having a sloping floor that extends downwards at a sloping angle from a first side of said opening in said first compartment and joining with a bottom portion of a first side of said first compartment opposing said first side of said opening;

a tray base having a non-skid or high friction co-efficient application attached or applied to a bottom surface of the tray base;

[a set] one or more [of] personal item storage containers adapted to fit into at least one of said compartments, one of said containers having an opening at a top portion of said container and a cylindrical shape which has a larger diameter at the top than at a bottom portion of said container; and

a weight or set of weights evenly distributed in [the] a lower [section] portion of the tray base.

10. (Currently Amended) A storage tray of claim 9, [further comprising:] wherein [a set of] said personal item storage containers [including] comprises denture cups, eyeglasses cases and hearing aid containers designed to fit securely within [the tray's storage] said compartments [recessed into the tray's planar surface].

11. (Currently Amended) A storage tray comprising: u

a storage surface;

a plurality of means for storing personal items [on] disposed around said storage surface, said plurality of means for storing personal items including a means for loosely retaining at least one of said personal items and also being capable of allowing at least one of said personal items to be moved diagonally into or out of said means for loosely retaining at least one of said personal items;

a means for immobilizing said storage tray positioned underneath said storage surface; and

a means for associating said personal items with said means for storing.

12. (Currently Amended) The storage tray of claim 11 further comprising:

a means for [automating personal item storage and inventory management in assisted living, nursing home or long term care facilities] signaling presence of said items in openings.

13. (Currently Amended) A storage tray of [claims] claim 11 further comprising:

a means for storing personal items when said tray is placed in horizontal, vertical or a combination of horizontal and vertical positions.

14. (New) A tray comprising:

a tray member having an upper surface including a substantially planar surface region and a plurality of depressed portions, said portions comprising:

a first depressed portion with an elongated opening having therewithin a surface with a substantially concave region, said substantially concave region obliquely joined to said substantially planar surface region at one or more boundary areas between said substantially planar surface region and said elongated opening; and

a second depressed portion formed with a substantially circular opening, said second depressed portion having a side portion and a floor portion defining a substantially cylindrical cavity.

15. (New) A tray as defined in claim 14 wherein said substantially concave region comprises at least a first region and a second region wherein said first region is a substantially planar region.

16. (New) A tray as defined in claim 14 wherein the area where said substantially concave region and said substantially planar surface region converge defines a dihedral having an oblique dihedral angle.

17. (New) A tray as defined in claim 14 wherein said concave region comprises at least a third curved region.

18. (New) A tray comprising:

a tray member having a plurality of regions formed in an upper surface of said tray member, said regions comprising a first portion and a second portion, said first portion having an elongated depression in an upper surface of said tray member, said depression having a floor portion which defines a substantially planar region, said planar region having a first and second side portion which are in opposition with respect to each other, wherein said first side portion and said upper surface forms a dihedral edge region, said second side portion is lower than said first side portion.

19. (New) A tray comprising:

a tray member having an upper surface including a first region and a second region, said first region having a substantially planar portion and a concave portion, said concave portion is obliquely and continuously related to said substantially planar portion at one or more points, said second region having a floor portion having first and second floor

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portions, said first and second floor portions forming an obtuse angle at a boundary portion therebetween.